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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1838.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS.

Beet Root Sugar.

Extract of a letter from S. D. Chapin, Esq. of Somers, Conn.:

"The sugar beet is attracting some attention in this place, and *beet sugar* has been manufactured the season past in small quantities in this town, of superior quality, equal to the best cane, by a son of Orson Wood, Esq., of this place. The yield is about 6 lbs. of sugar to 100 lbs. of beet. The apparatus used by Mr. Wood consisted chiefly of household utensils, and he succeeded in each attempt to make sugar, and thinks there is no difficulty in making a good article of sugar from the beet when the process is rightly understood."

☞ We shall esteem it a particular favor if Mr. Chapin or Mr. Wood, will furnish us with the particular process pursued in the manufacture of the Sugar alluded to.

Disease of Hogs.

The following is from a subscriber at Annapolis, (Md.):

"While writing, I will put a fact at your disposal. Early in the winter I lost, in course of two or three weeks, a fine young boar and seven shoats. They would die usually in less than 24 hours after they were taken sick, and without any external or internal marks of disease that could be discovered, except in two or three cases a slight swelling under the belly. Being but a beginner, I was entirely at a loss, until my overseer mentioned that he had seen tar smeared on the ears of corn given to them to prevent disease. The experiment was made, and no hog died or was sick after. Whether this was the effect of the tar or not, of course I cannot say, but no other means were used, either before or after it."

Ten Dollars Saved.

From a subscriber at Vandemark, Allegany county:

"I must confess that I knew little or nothing about farming till I took your Monthly Genesee Farmer. It is a paper well worth every man's perusal. For the small sum of 50 cents a year, I last year made a saving of $10, at least, in a small crop of spring wheat, which I should not have known any thing about had I not taken your paper. I heretofore had about one-fourth of smut, till I followed your direction of washing in brine, and then liming—the consequence was, no smut at all the last year."

Farming in Connecticut.

A subscriber at Danbury writes as follows:

"Four years since, I settled myself down to be a farmer, having before been engaged in merchandise. I have been a subscriber to your valuable paper five years, and have received much benefit from its perusal. When I came here, I think there was no agricultural paper taken by any of the farmers, and their mode of farming was much as it had been for the last ten or twelve years.—Now there is quite a number of agricultural papers taken, and farming bears a very different appearance. We now cultivate the ruta baga to considerable extent. I have this season raised on a little more than a quarter of an acre, 140 bushels. One of my neighbors had a much larger piece, on which he raised nearly 500 bushels; and many of them have raised from 100 to 200 and 300 bushels. I and my neighbors have made calculations about the cost per bushel to raise them, and it is but about 8 cents. We esteem them very highly, not only for beef, but they are very valuable for store cattle, and I find that hogs do well on them. Some of our farmers are trying wheat. The summer wheat did well last year, and many have engaged seed for the coming season.—Our crop of corn for the last two years, has been light; we find it necessary (as our seasons are so cold and wet) to plant the earliest kind we can procure. We plant the Dutton, (12 rowed.) I had a piece last fall that was as sound as a nut. It comes to maturity some time before the old-fashioned 8 rowed kind, and generally gets ripe before we have frost enough to injure it. The crop of rye which our farmers depend upon for their bread-stuff, has come in very light for two years past; some have supposed the cause to be the severity of the winters, with but little snow to protect the roots, and others to different causes. Buckwheat has been abundant this season, and it serves to make many a meal, where otherwise there would be none. The crop of potatoes has also been abundant. The winter thus far has been very mild; we have had but little snow; I think at no one time has it been over four inches, and now, 18th January, the frost is nearly out of the ground. It has been remarked by many of our oldest citizens, that they never experienced such a winter before; as it is hardly half out, we may have severe cold weather yet."

Farming in Indiana.

From a subscriber at Laconia, Harrison county:

"I am cultivating, or rather living on a farm of 300 acres cleared land—cultivate what I can with a hand or two, and rent the balance to tenants at from 12 to 15 bushels corn per acre. Our corn is worth 25 cents per bushel at the heap. We raise from 50 to 70 bushels per acre on the native soil for as much as ten years, without any decrease in the crop; and then by clovering two or three years it will produce corn as well as ever, and retain the clover seed in the ground. Of oats, we raise from 25 to 30 bushels per acre, at 20 cents per bushel.—Of wheat we raise from 10 to 25 bushels per acre, at from 75 cents to $1 per bushel. I have been raising from 55 to 60 tons of hay annually, which is worth $10 per ton, baled on the bank of the river. I have a fine orchard, but too young to afford many apples for sale—they are worth 25 cents per bushel for the southern market. We raise fine potatoes here, which are worth 25 cents per bushel. Laboring hands are scarce, and constant hands are out of the question; they are worth 50 cents per day for common labor. At the above rates I have sold the present season, besides a sufficient quantity for my own use, to the amount of $1700. There is no spring wheat here, consequently I have sent to the state of Illinois for 25 bushels. We need something in place of oats to return our corn land to clover, and I think spring wheat will pay better than oats. I have this year tried the ruta baga, but with no success; having no suitable ground for sowing them in the drill, I sowed them in new ground at broadcast. In the latter part of May I found the grass hard to keep under, and the turneps, for want of proper culture, ceased to grow before cold weather, and they all rotted; but I have raised my seed and purpose trying according to the directions given in the Farmer next year."

The same writer urges the establishment of an Agricultural Ware-house at Louisville, (Ky.) from which the farmers of the great West might be supplied with seeds, and the various labor-saving machines of the present day, and thinks such an establishment at that place would receive an extensive patronage. He can obtain Hussey's machine for cutting grain and grass, by addressing Mr. Obed Hussey, Cincinnati, Ohio. ☞ The Baden Corn is not to be had in this vicinity.

THE OAT.

The oat, *Avena sativa* of the naturalist, is a grain very useful, and better adapted to a northern climate than any other plant that has been used for bread. It is chiefly confined to the more moist and cool portions of the American and European continents, being scarcely known in the south of France, Italy or Spain; or in the southern parts of the United States, or in tropical countries Of all the cultivated grains, oats are the easiest of culture, and the most certain and prolific in its product. The varieties of oats are very numerous, and some of them are very distinctly marked, and as in the case of wheat, there seems no reason why new varieties may not be produced at pleasure.

(Fig. 5.)

Mr. Loudon, in his Encyclopedia, enumerates the principal varieties cultivated in Scotland and England as follows; and from his work we have copied the figures of two of these varieties, illustrating as much perhaps as any, the most marked peculiarities of this valuable plant.

The white or *Common oat*, (fig. 5, *a*) in most general cultivation, and known by its white husk and kernel.

The Black oat, known by its black husk, cultivated in England and Scotland on poor soils.

The Red oat, known by its brownish red husk, thinner and more flexible stem, and firmly attached grains. It is early, suffers little from winds, and makes good meal, and suits exposed situations and late climates.

The Poland oat, known by its thick white husk, awnless chaff, solitary grains, short white kernel, and short stiff straw. It requires a dry warm soil, and is very prolific. The black Poland oat is one of the best varieties, and sometimes weighs 50 lbs. per bushel.

The Dutch oat, has plump, thin skinned, white grains, mostly double, and the large one sometimes awned. It has longer straw than the Poland, but in other respects resembles it.

The Potatoe oat, has large plump, rather thick skinned white grains, double and treble, and with longer straw than either of the last varieties. It is preferred to all others in England, for land in good cultivation, and bears a higher price in the London market than any other.

The Georgian oat, is a large grained, remarkably prolific variety introduced from Georgia, near the Caspian sea. Some cultivators, on good land, prefer it to the potatoe oat.

The Siberian or Tartarian oat, (fig. 5, *b*) is considered by some as a distinct species. The grains are black or brown, thin and rather small, and turned mostly to one side of the panicle or ear. The straw is large and reedy, but it is usually very productive, and is well calculated for poor soils, and exposed situations.

A variety called the *Winter oat*, is cultivated in some parts of England. It is sown in October, the plants are luxuriant at Christmas, tillering like wheat; is depastured by ewes and lambs all the spring; the fields are then shut up and an ample harvest is cut in August.

There are many other varieties of oats known, their names owing to some local cause, and by selection, or systematic impregnation, new kinds may be originated at pleasure. Degeneracy in any variety usually takes place

in a limited time, unless care is taken to select the best heads and well ripened grains for seed. Some English farmers are at the pains to select the best seeds after the grain is threshed. The best seeds are picked out by hand by women.

It is found by experience, that of the numerous cultivated varieties, the Potatoe and Poland, are the best selections for lowland, and the red oat for good uplands; the common, or the black oat, may be sown on inferior soils; as may also the Tartarian. The numerous instances given in the last volume of the Farmer, of the astonishing productiveness of the Tartarian, shows that it is a variety well adapted to our soils and climate.

In the sowing of oats less regard may be had to soil than with any other grain; the only requisite seems to be that it shall not be too wet. Tenacious clays, or poor gravel, where scarcely any seed bearing plant will grow, will produce a crop of oats, if ploughed at the proper season, and the seed of good quality and judiciously put in. "The best oats both in quantity and quality, are those which succeed grass; indeed no kind of grain seems better qualified by nature for foraging upon grass land than oats; as a full crop is usually obtained in the first instance, and the land left in good order for succeeding ones." (British Husbandry.)

In England the time of sowing oats is from February to April; a proof of the great disparity existing between the climate of this country and that; since here, oats are sown from the last of April until June; very few being usually put in during the month of April. It should always be remembered, however, that early sown oats, as well as spring wheat and barley, are always heavier and of better quality, than late sown ones, and as a general rule all spring grains should be put into the ground as early as the soil can be prepared for their reception.

As with other grain, the quantity sown per acre varies much with different agriculturists and in different countries. Here, from two and a half to three bushels an acre, is considered amply sufficient; "in England from four to six bushels are usually sown." (Loudon.) Potatoe oats require a less quantity than other oats, as they tiller better than other varieties, and having no awns, contain a greater number of grains in a bushel.

Oats require and receive no after culture, unless it may sometimes become necessary to go over a field and pull such weeds as threaten to over-run the plant, or prove injurious by seeding to after crops. There are few of the plants cultivated as grain, so little liable to injury from insects or disease as the oat. The wire worm sometimes attacks the plant in the ground, and we have in one or two instances detected the worm that is now proving so injurious to wheat, in the oat. The disease to which the oat is most liable is the smut. This may in general be prevented by sowing seed of good quality and putting it in when the ground is dry and in good tilth. According to Loudon, liming oats or barley, which is so effectual in destroying smut on wheat, is useless. This may perhaps be owing to the husk, which prevents the immediate contact of the alkali with the kernel. Would not soaking the seed in lime water obviate this difficulty and secure the plant against this disease? The mode of preventing the ravages of the wire worm practiced in Europe, is to plough the land immediately before sowing. If in grass, the worm is thus turned under, and before it works its way to the surface the grain is beyond its reach. In this country, late ploughing, by exposing the larvæ and eggs of insects to the action of frost, has been found one of the most effectual means of their destruction.

The great danger to which late sown oats are exposed, is, the being overtaken with frost before the grain is ripened. The result is an inferior light grain, unfit for seed, and of little value for meal. The great difference of weight between a good and poor oat lies principally in the weight of meal, as the husk of the inferior oat is equal to that of the ripe one. Fortunately frost bitten oats are easily detected. The Rev. Mr. Farquharson observes in the 19th vol. of the Farmer's Magazine, "that every oat kernel when stripped of the husk will be found to exhibit the appearance of a groove on one side. If the bottom of the groove has a clear translucent appearance from end to end; if it is not much shrunk into the substance of the kernel; and if the kernel splits with difficulty in its direction; then we may pronounce the vital part of the seed to be safe from the action of frost. If, on the contrary, there is a black speck seen in the groove at the root end of the kernel; if the groove cuts deep into the kernel, so that it may be split in that direction; and if, when so split, the blackness accompanied with a rotten scaly appearance, is seen extending from end to end at the bottom of the groove, then the vital part, or future plant may be pronounced as being entirely unfit for seed."

Oats are extensively used for human food in Scotland and some parts of England, and in some few instances during the past season, oats were so used in this country. But they are generally cultivated almost exclusively for horses, there being no grain which agrees with this useful animal so well, or which can be so cheaply furnished. Oats cut when in a rather green state, and well cured, fed out to sheep or calves without threshing, in small daily quantities, have been highly recommended by some intelligent and practical farmers. A mixture of oats and peas sown together, at the rate of two bushels of the former and one of the latter to the acre has been adopted by some farmers, and considered as preferable to clean oats for feeding. The mixture requires grinding of course, and must be better when required for mixing with boiled food for swine, than oats alone. The trouble of harvesting must operate as a drawback on this mode of culture, as the crop is almost invariably 'lodged,' and as it can neither be raked as peas, or cradled as oats, it must be cut up with a scythe, which is usually a tedious and wasteful process. The quantity of oats grown in the state of New-York is immense. It has been estimated that the crop in Onondaga county alone, will, for the year 1837, fall not much short of one million of bushels.

QUERY.

"One farmer says, if the soil is rich and well prepared, put on more seed, for it will sustain a heavy crop; another says, put on less seed, for the plants will tiller and spread more, and of course a smaller quantity of seed will supply the ground. Now how is this? And in the case of early and late sowing the culmiferous grains, should there be a difference in the quantity of the seed?" A FARMER.

In replying to the queries of our respected correspondent, we can only say, that we have never been acquainted with any experiments that have been instituted in this country to determine the points to which he alludes. In England, where such matters have received a large share of attention, it seems to be regarded as a fixed principle, that rich land requires less seed to produce the greatest crop, and that the amount of seed sown should be increased exactly in proportion to the leanness of the soil. Thus in the British Husbandry, vol. 2, article Barley, it says, speaking of the quantity of seed to be sown—

"The quantity of seed usually sown is about four bushels per acre, of all kinds; but the ordinary species of two rowed barley, if allowed room enough, tillers strongly, and if sown too thick, the plants become weak; it consequently requires less seed than most other sorts: the land also requires different quantities of the same species of seed, according to its properties: thus, if rich, ten pecks may be sufficient; if adhesive, twelve are requisite; and if very light, from fourteen to sixteen are necessary."

"The quantity of seed (wheat) necessarily depends both on the time of sowing and the state of the land; land sown early requiring less than the same land when sown in the winter or spring; and poor land being at all times allowed more land than rich. Winter wheat when sown in spring ought always to have a liberal allowance, as the plants have not time to tiller much without unduly retarding their maturation."—*Supplement to Ency. Britanica Art. Ag.*

"Thin sowing of spring grains, owing to the want of time to tiller, ought not to be practiced, otherwise the crop will be late and imperfect, because ripening unequally."—*Brown's Treatise on Rural Affairs.*

"The quantity of seed (barley) is different in different cases, according to the quantity of the soil, and other circumstances. Upon very rich lands, eight pecks per acre, are sometimes sown; twelve is very common; and upon poor land, more is sometimes given."—*Loudon's Ency. of Ag.*

In putting in Rye, "the crop suffers materially in produce by late sowing, and the quantity of seed must in that case be increased. Two bushels are found enough in the first instance, (sowing in August;) two and a half in the latter, (sowing in September;) and nearly three, if the period of sowing be longer deferred."—*British Husbandry, Art. Rye.*

"The sowing of wheat must also be partly regulated both by the nature of the soil and the seed, as well as the time of sowing; for if both the seed and the land be of superior quality, less seed will serve than if they be of a bad kind; and whatever may be their quality, the quantity of seed must be increased in proportion to the lateness of the season at which the grain is sown."—*Brit. Hus. Art. Wheat.*

"Soils naturally rich, or such as are highly improved by cultivation and manure, will require much less seed than those in an unfertile state; on the contrary, the lighter and less cultivated the soil, the greater will be the quantity of seed it requires."—*Burroughs on the cult. of White Crops.*

Thus, if high authorities are competent to decide a point of this nature, it seems clear that in the case of *poor land*, and *late sowing*, *more seed* is required than on *rich soils* and with *early sowing*. American farmers in these cases, should however, 'take nothing on trust,' but experiment and decide for themselves; and as we know of no one more competent to the undertaking than our querist, may we not hope he will be one of the first to engage in a series that shall decide in a more satisfactory manner than has ever yet been done in this country, these and similar questions connected with the cultivation of grain.

HOOF-AIL.

The following extracts from communications in the "Plough Boy," published in 1820, may throw some additional light upon the nature of this disease, which has proved so destructive to cattle. The first is from the pen of Samuel Griggs, of Homer, who kept a large number of horned cattle, and who did not consider the disease as arising from frozen feet, but believed "that cattle never become frozen until they are first distempered."

"In conversing with farmers, and those of most experience, I derive the following information with regard to the freezing of feet:—The animal affected appears to be uneasy, kicks and stamps with its hind feet, or with the one diseased, if only one; soon after it becomes lame, and then the diseased foot or feet, is frozen by the first severe cold that follows. The first appearance of the disease is *between the foot and what is called the dew-claws*, which are just above the hoof, on the back of the leg. As soon as the foregoing symptoms are discovered, the creature is to be cast, and two bags or protuberances of infected matter, to be found at the place just mentioned, are to be opened, and cleansed within. Some fill the wound with fine salt, some with spirits of nitre, and some with oil of spike. A neighboring farmer told me a few days since, that he could in this way save 99 in 100 head of cattle affected with this disease; but that the remedy must be applied before the stagnation of blood in the feet takes place, for then the diseased feet become frozen in cold weather."

A writer under the signature of "Agricola," makes the following remarks:—

"I have no idea that the disease is produced by *freezing;* because I have known several instances in which it has attacked cattle in the months of September and October, and before any freezing weather could affect them. My experience is very limited; two cows only of my stock having been infected; and these two were put out to a dairyman in September, and were both attacked early in November with this disorder. One died, and the other by early attention, was saved, with the loss of about one half of each hoof. The remedies used to check the disorder in the second case were, "a free internal use of a mixture of charcoal powder, salt-petre, and common salt; and a mixture of charcoal in her feed; binding up the ankles at the same time with old rags, and applying twice a day, a liniment made of spirits of hartshorn, whiskey and oil, to the ankles and hoofs." This practice checked the disorder; about two inches from the point of each hoof mortified and came off. The cow was reduced to a perfect skeleton, and was unable to walk for some weeks, but gradually recovered, and made a fine beef last fall. The same remedies were recommended and applied in several cases among my neighbors. *In recent cases they were successful*, but when the disorder had made progress, nothing could check or cure it."

From a communication by Dr. Alexander Coventry, of Utica, the following observations are taken, and apparently evince much experience and judgment:—

"I have had many opportunities of examining the disease in all its grades, from the slightest affection at the

point of the hoof, to the separation of the legs at the gambril joints. I have watched its progress from the night I suspected the injury to have taken place, to the death of the animal, sometimes eight months after. Finding nothing mentioned in either European or American books, relating to this disorder, I applied to farmers for information. The majority of these, like Mr. Griggs and Agricola, did not attribute it to frost, but to some hidden and mysterious cause. Amongst those who had experienced its bad effects, I found not a few intelligent men who had no doubt as to its nature. * * * To the superficial observer, the *Foul in the foot*, a disease that takes place in summer, might be confounded with the *Hoof-Ail. The former attacks the hoof between the claws;* this is best cured by friction and escharotics. Even in the real Hoof-Ail, a person not versant with its nature, does not suspect it till the matter begins to appear at the top of the horny part, constituting the infectious bags of Mr. Griggs; this is sometimes weeks or months after freezing. If the disease, although slight, has been neglected, or if the affection has been severe, the animal will appear at the worst in the summer months; if only the point of the claw is frost bitten, it will be after May or June before you have occular demonstration of the disease. Of eleven head that I lost in one season, several lingered through the summer, and the last cow which had this distemper lost both her hind feet, and was knocked in the head when the following winter set in."

Dr. Coventry then proceeds to mention some instances as proofs of his opinion that the disease is caused by freezing, and adduces the fact that the greatest inconvenience felt in consequence of slight freezing is often experienced during the heat of summer. When the disease is first suspected, Dr. C. directs us to observe the recumbent posture of the animal, to examine whether the fore feet are as often affected as the hind, or the inner claw as often as the outer in slight cases; and whenever the animal is seen less eager than usal for food, to watch narrowly its movements; if it stand uneasy, or kick with one foot, let the point of both or the *outside* claw be sawed off, and it will be found hollow or in a state of inflammation; the matter found will have a dependent outlet, the animal will regain its appetite, be saved weeks, perhaps months of suffering. If the freezing is above the dew-claws, so as to deprive the animal of both feet, Dr. C. recommends killing the animal at once.

In reply to the opinion advanced by Agricola, that feeding from old neglected meadows and on wild uncultivated grass, is the cause of the disease, Dr Coventry says,

"I can state, that although I have had fifty or more cases of Hoof-Ail on my present farm, that my hay, of which I cut from seventy to a hundred tons annually, is all timothy and clover, that I have no wild grass, and never found a head of ergot amongst my hay."

In another communication, instances are given which favor the opinion that the disease is caused by the ergot of grass. Further observations are needed to establish this opinion; and that of freezing as the cause requires also further confirmation; although the fact stated by the correspondent in the Genesee Farmer, that the disease appears to be entirely *local* strengthens the latter. J. J. T.

State of the Laboring Classes in Europe.

We copy the substance of the following from the English "Working Man's Year Book" for 1836; and place it before the readers of the Farmer, that they may contrast their own circumstances with others. It must be remembered at the same time, that in England, butchers meat, at the same period, varied from three to six shillings sterling for eight pounds, for beef, and other kinds in proportion.

In France, masons do not get more than from one to two shillings per day, and carpenters two shillings. Laborers in the country receive from 7*d.* to 10*d.*, and their yearly earnings do not amount to more than £15. The working classes throughout France seldom get animal food; they generally live upon bread, vegetables, and soup made of onions and other roots. In Belgium, the wages are the same as in France, but the food consists of rye bread, potatoes, and sometimes a piece of pork. In Holland the wages are higher. The best mechanics receive 12*s.* a week, and good laborers receive 1*s.* 6*d.* a day in summer, and 1*s.* 4*d.* in winter. Inferior ones in proportion. The diet is rye bread, cheese, potatoes, beans, and occasionally pork. In Denmark, wages are considered high at £15 per annum. The laborer lives on rye bread, bad milk, cheese and coffee. In Sweden, the best laborers only earn 8*d.* per day, and the inferior ones from 3*d.* to 4*d.* In the southern provinces, the diet is chiefly potatoes and salt fish; in the northern, porridge and rye bread. The poor, both in Norway and Sweden, are not unfrequently obliged to have recourse to the inner bark of the fir tree, mixed with bad bread. In the south of Europe, the food is principally fruits of different kinds, and corn bread.

In England labor is better rewarded than in any other European country, but with no inconsiderable portion of the population, wheat bread or butchers meat is comparatively unknown; the wages paid for labor will not permit such indulgence. The immense numbers that in one way and another, are compelled to require the aid of the poor laws to obtain a bare subsistence, prove conclusively that labor even there is not properly rewarded, or that a state of things most unfavorable to public prosperity and individual independence exists. In Ireland, the existing state of things is well understood; distress of every kind, from its first incipient stage of poverty, down to absolute starvation, abounds there; and the tens of thousands that annually seek our shores from the countries mentioned, furnish the best comment on the ease of subsistence, and comparative comforts of a residence in the old world and the new. Here industry can hardly fail to ensure competence, there a mere subsistence. Let industry and economy be the watchword of the American farmer or mechanic; and he may boast of his 'corned beef and pullet,' not only on Sundays—as was the wish of Henry the Fourth with regard to his subjects—but if he chooses, on every day of the week.

WEEVILS.

It has long been known that one of the best methods of keeping off the larvæ of the moths that are so destructive to woolen garments, was to place in the drawers or closets where the woolen cloth or garments were deposited, locks of unscoured or raw wool, as this state of the article was so offensive to them as to drive them away speedily. Accident has shown, that it is equally effectual in destroying the grain weevil, but in a different way. A French farmer happening to place some sheep skins with the fleece on, in a corner of a granary in which there was a large quantity of grain, he was not a little surprised to find them in a few days covered with dead weevils. He repeated the experiment several times with the same success. At length he ordered his grain to be stirred up, and not a single weevil remained in it. It appears, therefore, though the cause has not been ascertained, that raw or *greasy wool*, when in the neighborhood of weevils attracts and destroys them.

Novel mode of Managing a Dairy.

To avoid the trouble of rearing calves, or escaping the loss in time which cows who have young occasion the dairy or even the man who keeps only one for his own family's use, has been a desideratum among all interested in this way. Some have resorted to spaying as the best method of forming permanent milkers; but the following notice of the practice of an extensive milkman near Birmingham, would seem to indicate a course which might be made available in all cases where cows are now kept up for a considerable part of the year, or where soiling is practicable. We copy from a letter to the editor of a foreign journal, describing the excellent qualities of the furze bush for feeding horses and cattle, after being pounded, or passed between cast iron rollers. For this, clover could no doubt be substituted.

"My friend keeps one hundred cows, and supplies milk to that town. His land is of a light, poor, dry quality, such as in the common mode of culture, would be insufficient for procuring fodder for his stock. He has sown one hundred acres with furze seed; but he never lets the plant rise into a shrub, and is constantly mowing it for his dairy cows. When bruised in the mill, it is mixed with a certain portion of chaff, (cut hay or straw,) and wash with grains, but the furze forms the principal portion of their diet, and increases the quantity and improves the quality of their milk. He also extensively uses it for his other stock.

"My friend follows an unusual system in other respects, which he finds most profitable. He buys his dairy cows about a fortnight after they have calved, places them in their pens or stalls, and they never stir out from their stalls until they are fat, and are sold to the butcher, which is usually at the end of five years. During all this time he continues to milk them, and they never again go to the bull. At the end of five years they are dry and fat, since as the milk decreases the fat increases; and he says, by this method of milking and feeding he loses less of the time or use of the cow, and makes more profit than he could in any other way. He does this with land that would be otherwise of no value to him, and as the system is new, and the advantages having been tested by several years experience, it may be interesting at least, if not useful to the reader."

THE ROAD LAWS.

The following Petition, which has been extensively circulated in Livingston county, has been sent us for publication in the Farmer, in the hope that other counties would take up the subject, and send petitions to the Legislature as soon as may be, for such an alteration of the Road Laws, as will make the highway tax payable in money instead of labor:

To the Honorable the Legislature of the State of New-York, in Senate and Assembly convened:

The undersigned beg leave, very respectfully, to invite the attention of the Legislature to the following defects, which they believe to attend the operation of the law imposing a Highway Tax, and directing the application thereof to the improvement of the roads, in the county of Livingston:

The law, as it now exists, authorizes individuals to work out their tax by manual labor, by teams, carts, wagons and other implements. This provision opens the door to numerous evasions, and the overseer of highways directing the labor of his neighbor, does not possess the means, and seldom has a desire to compel the rigid performance of the duties. It is believed by the undersigned that the tax imposed and applied under the present system, does not effect as much in improving the highways as would be accomplished by one half the amount levied in money, and expended under proper agents in labor, employed by the day or in job work.

It is believed that these defects would be in a great measure remedied by making the highway tax exclusively a money tax, by requiring it to be paid in money, and laid out by a Commissioner of Highways, who should be authorized to let the roads out in districts to the lowest bidder, and he giving bonds with good securities to the same, for the fulfilment of his contract. All bridges, sluce-ways, &c. let out, or done in some other way, that might on trial, prove the best for the improvement of the highways and lessen the tax, (for we deem no trial can prove for the worse.) The amount of tax to be levied in the place of a day's work to be forty cents; and that each town elect a suitable person by ballot, at the annual town meeting, to be called the Commissioner of Highways, or that the same be appointed by the Supervisors of the county of Livingston, and that the said Commissioner shall give bonds for the proper fulfilment of the duties of his office; and that it shall be his duty to collect all the tax and expend all the moneys, so collected in his town, on the roads, bridges, sluce-ways, &c. as he deems best for the public good, always giving each road its full share of improvement, according to the tax paid in the district; and that the Commissioner of Highways be paid a full compensation, so that he can afford to give his whole and undivided time to the highways.

The undersigned, believing the present system to be in its operations onerous and inefficient, beg leave respectfully to recommend the subject to the early consideration of your honorable body.

Cultivation of Pine Apples.

The cultivation of Pine Apples has been commenced by Mr. Cushing of Belmont Place, near Boston, with all the energy and perseverance for which he is distinguished. In "A retrospective view of the progress of horticulture in the United States, during the past year," by the Editor of the Magazine of Horticulture, we find the following notice of this laudable undertaking:—"When we last visited this fine situation, we found one of the elegant stoves converted into a fruiting pine house, the pit of which was filled with fine grown specimens, some of which were beginning to ripen their fruit, or 'swell off,' as the phrase is. In the pit of the other stove was also a great number of succession plants, intended for fruiting next summer. Col. Perkins has also erected a pinery, which will soon be filled with plants. We hail these as the first steps towards the general cultivation of the 'king of fruits' by the worthy gentlemen and patrons of gardening in this country."—*Silk Culturist.*

The State Convention.

We had hoped to have received in season for this number of the Farmer, some account of the proceedings of the Agricultural State Convention, which met at Albany on the first instant; but so far, we have seen no allusion to the meeting in the Albany papers. We learn, however, verbally, that it was well attended, and that the best spirit prevailed. Several very interesting reports were read from Committees appointed at the last meeting, and a petition adopted and presented to the Legislature, praying for an appropriation for the benefit of Agriculture. In pursuance of this petition, L. F. Allen, Esq., chairman of the committee on Agriculture in the Assembly, on the 10th inst. reported a bill "to improve the Agriculture of this state," which is thus noticed in the legislative proceedings:

This bill establishes a Board of Agriculture at Albany, having a supervisory care of the general subject throughout the state—and appropriates $20,000 annually for five years for the endowment of county agricultural societies, to be apportioned among them in certain proportions, provided each county society raises one third the sum allotted to it—the money to come from the income of the U. S. surplus deposites.—The bill was accompanied by a long report, ten times the usual number of copies of which, with the bill, was ordered to be printed, on motion of Mr. A.

From what we hear from Albany, we have reason to think there is a fair prospect that the bill will pass the Legislature; and we would suggest the propriety of holding meetings in towns or counties, immediately, that further measures may be taken to make known the claims of Agriculture upon the fostering care of the state, and to petition for the passage of Mr. Allen's bill, provided it shall meet with general approbation, when its provisions become known, as they will as soon as Mr. Allen's Report and Bill are printed.

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P. S. We have just received Mr. Allen's Report and Bill, and we lose no time in laying the latter before our readers. The Report will be given next week.

An Act to improve the Agriculture of this State.

The People of the State of New-York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. That the sum of twenty thousand dollars per annum shall be, and hereby is appropriated, for the term of five years, for the promotion of agriculture and household manufactures, in the several counties of this state, in the manner following, to wit: To the county of Albany five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Allegany, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Broome, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Cattaraugus, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Cayuga, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Chautauque, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Chemung, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Chenango, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Clinton, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Columbia, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Cortland, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Delaware, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Dutchess, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Erie, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Essex, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Franklin, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Genesee, six hundred and ninety-five dollars; to the county of Greene, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Herkimer, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Jefferson, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Kings, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Lewis, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Livingston, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Madison, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Monroe, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Montgomery, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Niagara, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Oneida, six hundred and ninety-five dollars; to the county of Onondaga, six hundred and ninety-five dollars; to the county of Ontario, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Orange, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Orleans, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Oswego, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Otsego, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Putnam, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Queens, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Rensselaer, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Richmond, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Rockland, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of St. Lawrence, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Saratoga, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Schenectady, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Schoharie, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Seneca, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Steuben, five hundred and twenty-one dollars; to the county of Suffolk, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Sullivan, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Tioga, one hundred and seventy-four dollars; to the county of Tompkins, three hundred and forty-eight dollars; to the county of Ulster, three hundred and fifty dollars; to the county of Warren, one hundred and seventy-five dollars; to the county of Washington, three hundred and fifty dollars; to the county of Wayne, three hundred and fifty dollars; to the county of Westchester, three hundred and fifty dollars; to the county of Yates, one hundred and seventy-four dollars.

§ 2. That when an agricultural society shall be formed in any county, or in two contiguous counties, and the members thereof shall annually procure, or raise by voluntary subscription, any sum of money, the president and treasurer shall make and subscribe an affidavit of the facts of the formation of such society, and of their having raised a certain sum, specifying the amount thereof, which affidavit shall be filed with the comptroller of this state, who shall draw his warrant on the treasurer for a sum equal to double the amount of such voluntary subscription, not, however, exceeding the amount to which such county or counties would be entitled, according to the apportionment aforesaid.

§ 3. That the several agricultural societies which shall be formed in this state, during the continuance of this act, shall annually elect such and so many officers as they shall deem proper, all of whom shall be actually engaged in carrying on the business of farming; none of whom, however, shall receive any emolument from his office; and it shall be the duty of such officers annually to regulate and award premiums on such articles, productions and improvements, as they may deem best calculated to promote the agricultural and household manufacturing interests of this state; having especial reference to the nett profits which accrue, or are likely to accrue, from the mode of raising the crop or stock, or the fabrication of the article thus offered, with the intention that the reward shall be given for the most economical or profitable mode of competition: Provided always, that no individual shall receive more than two premiums at any anniversary meeting, nor more than one first and one second premium at any subsequent time upon the same animal, and that no person shall receive any premium from an awarding committee of which he is a member thereof: And provided further, that before any premium shall be delivered, the person claiming the same, or to whom the same may be awarded, shall deliver in writing to the president of the society, as accurate a description of the process in preparing the soil, including the quantity and quality of manure applied, and in raising the crop, or feeding the animal, as may be; and also of the expense and product of the crop, or of increase in value of the animal, with the view of showing accurately the profit of cultivating the crop, or of feeding or fattening the animal.

§ 4. That if an agricultural society shall not be organized in any county, or shall neglect to raise by voluntary subscription, a sum which shall entitle them to the apportionment made to said county by this act, the board of supervisors of said county are hereby empowered, at their pleasure, during the continuance of this act, to raise annually, in the manner the contingent charges of said county are required to be raised, a sum equal to one half the amount hereby appropriated to said county. And whenever the president of said board of supervisors shall certify to the comptroller that such board of supervisors have resolved to raise such sum, it shall be the duty of the comptroller to draw his warrant on the treasurer of the state, in favor of the treasurer of such county, for the sum appropriated for said county by the first section of this act.

§ 5. That it shall be the duty of the supervisors of every such county, to cause all the money so raised and received for agricultural improvement, to be paid and expended at an annual agricultural exhibition, to be held in such county, at such time as they shall appoint, in such manner as shall in their judgment best promote the legitimate object of this act, and subject to all the provisions contained in the third section hereof.

§ 6. That the several presidents of the said societies, and of the boards of supervisors, who shall receive or expend any of the moneys hereby appropriated, shall annually, in the month of December, trasmit all such reports or returns as they are required to demand and receive, to the secretary of the state board of agriculture, hereafter named and organized, together with an abstract of their proceedings, exhibiting a detailed account of the expenditure of all the moneys which shall come into their hands under this act, and stating to whom and for what purpose paid, with the vouchers therefor.

§ 7. There shall be organized a state board of agriculture, to consist of five members, who shall hold their offices for five years from the second Tuesday of February, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and shall receive, while necessarily employed in the duties enjoined by this act, the same compensation as members of the legislature. They may choose such officers as they may deem necessary, and shall hold quarter-yearly meetings in the city of Albany on the first Tuesdays in February, May, August and November; and may also meet at such other times as may be found expedient to fulfill the duties hereafter enjoined upon them.

§ 8. There shall be assigned for the meetings of the state board of agriculture, and as a museum for models, geological specimens, and agricultural productions, a suitable apartment in the state buildings now erecting; which room and museum shall be kept in order by the secretary, or by some person to be appointed by the board, and shall at all reasonable hours be open and accessible to the public without charge.

§ 9. It shall be the duty of the state board of agriculture to examine all reports and returns made by the presidents of the county agricultural societies, and boards of agriculture; to select, for publication, such of them, and such other essays as they may judge advisable; and shall annually publish a volume, to be distributed in the several counties of this state, by the county agricultural societies, or by the boards of supervisors thereof: And they shall examine, when in session, and determine by practical experiment on the merits of all new farm implements or machinery offered for their examination, and may award discretionary premiums, upon such as may be found truly meritorious and deserving of public patronage, provided the whole amount expended in any one year shall not exceed the sum of one thousand dollars for that purpose; and provided further, that no such premium shall be delivered to the person claiming the same, until he has deposited with the board a model of his implement, machine or improvement.

§ 10. There shall be deposited in the room assigned to the board, a complete set of mineralogical and geological specimens, properly arranged and labelled, from the collections now being made by the geological corps in the public employ; specimens of choice or rare agricultural productions, models of implements, drawings of choice animals, books, and other articles which may be presented to the museum, a registry of all which shall be made by the secretary, and open to the public inspection.

§ 11. The said state board of agriculture shall report annually to the legislature, in the month of January, a statement of their expenditures and of their proceedings during the previous year; and also all matters that they may deem calculated to promote the improvement of agriculture and of household industry.

12. A reward of five hundred dollars shall be and is hereby offered to any person who shall discover and will communicate to the state board of agriculture, for the public benefit, a sure and efficient preventive of the depredations of the insect denominated the Grain Worm; the efficacy of the said preventive to be tested by the said board during at least one year, and satisfactorily confirmed before the said award shall be given; and if the discovery shall prove but a partial remedy of the evil, it is made discretionary with the said board, or a majority of them, to award such part of the sum hereby appropriated as its importance may seem to justify.

§ 13. That the treasurer of the state shall annually pay on the warrant of the comptroller to the said state board of agriculture, the sum of five thousand dollars, to enable them to pay the aforesaid premium; to purchase and distribute such useful seeds as they may deem proper; to publish an annual volume, and to defray such other necessary expenses to promote the object of this act, as are not otherwise provided for; and the said board shall annually account with the comptroller for the expenditure of this money.

§ 14. That the presidents of the several county societies, or delegates to be chosen by them annually for the purpose, shall be ex-officio members of the New-York State Agricultural Society.

§ 15. The board of agriculture, constituted as aforesaid, shall have the authority in their discretion, to award premiums for the production of extraordinary and valuable crops of grain; beet root, and sugar manufactured from the same; mulberry orchards, and silk manufactured therefrom; or any other agricultural or horticultual productions or household manufactures, which in their view shall by such encouragement add to the productive wealth of the country, not exceeding however in amount the sum of five thousand dollars hereby placed in their hands.

§ 16. The collectors of taxes in the several towns in the state of New-York are hereby required, while collecting the same, to ascertain, as near as may be in their power, the number of bushels of grain of different kinds, of esculent roots, and of hay produced during the cur-

rent year in their respective towns, and the number of horses, cattle, sheep and swine then in existence, and report such amount to the board of agriculture at the city of Albany, on or before the first day of January in each and every year hereafter. Such report to be directed to "The State Board of Agriculture, Albany."

§ 17. The sum of twenty-five thousand dollars appropriate by this act shall be taken from the income of the surplus fund deposited with the state of New-York by the United States.

§ 18. The first board of agriculture shall consist of who are hereby appointed for the term of five years aforesaid, and all vacancies that may occur in said board shall be filled by joint ballot of both houses of the legislature at their annual session, to be held by the incumbents for the same period of time.

§ 19. The state board of agriculture shall procure of the agricultural periodicals entitled "The Cultivator" and "The Monthly Genesee Farmer," as many copies of each, commencing with the current volumes, as there are common school districts in the state, and shall cause as many copies of each to be addressed to the school commisioners of each town as there shall be school districts in the same; and it shall be the duty of such school commissioners to cause the said papers to be promptly distributed, one copy of each, to the several schools, and of the trustees of said school districts to have the same properly taken care of, and to be used as occasional class books in said schools.

§ 20. The comptroller shall, on the requisition of the said board of agriculture, draw his warrant on the treasury of the state for the payment to each of the proprietors of the said agricultural papers for the number of copies so delivered, estimating each of them at fifty cents per copy; such payment to be made from the common school fund.

PRODUCTS OF THE OCEAN.

The ocean, as well as the earth, has the past year yielded her increase in rich abundance. We have not sufficient data to estimate the amount of wealth which has been drawn from this great resource of all nations, or to ascertain the distributive share which the industry and enterprise of individuals and companies have allotted to this country; but judging from the item before us, should think the harvest unusually plenteous. We allude to the sperm whale fishery, an account of which may be found in a late number of the Nantucket Inquirer. From that account it appears that during the last year the quantity of sperm oil, imported into the United States, amounts to 176,317 barrels—equal to 5,554,000 gallons, and amounting in value to $5,000,000. This, with the exception of 30,000 barrels, has been drawn from the Pacific Ocean, and, though it may seem large, is but a small part of its product. To it is to be added the amount and value of sperm oil taken by other nations, as well as the avails of the whale, seal, and other fisheries, and the result would enable us to form a feeble conception of the riches and treasures which a kind Providence has there deposited for the use of man. But when we endeavor to add to it the products of the Atlantic and the Indian Oceans, with all the seas, bays, gulfs, rivers, &c., with which the three oceans are connected, we are lost in wonder and astonishment at the greatness, and should be in adoration of the goodness of that Almighty Being, by whose power they are and were created.—*Silk Culturist.*

Two Rules for Ploughmen.

The breadth of the furrow-slice should correspond with its thickness, and be in the proportion of three broad to two deep. This is necessary in order that the furrow may be suitably and handsomely laid. If the depth is in greater proportion, the furrow-slice will not be turned over enough, and will be apt to rest on its edge; if it is less, the furrow-slice will be turned too far; for,

The furrow-slice should not be completely turned over, and laid flat, except where it is to be sown with grass seeds, but made to rest in a sloping position against a previous one. If flat, the soil is less pulverized, less permeable, more subject to be injured by water, than if laid slopping. In this way too the greatest surface is exposed to the atmosphere, which is calculated to ameliorate and mellow the soil. A stiff clay, or a tough sward, is but little benefitted by the plough, if laid flat. It soon becomes almost as compact as it was before it was turned over. The same takes place if the soil is wet, or heavy rains follow.—*Cultivator.*

Furnish your Boys with Papers.—A subscriber observed the other day, that his boys had rather disliked the business of farming, and when he took a number of the Yankee Farmer home to examine, the boys read it very attentively, and observed that they would do better if he would subscribe for it. He subscribed for the paper, *paid in advance*, and he says that his boys take more interest in farming, do better and are highly delighted in reading the Farmer. Many other farmers may do likewise with the same advantage.—*Ib.*

COMMUNICATIONS.

THE PLEASURES OF AGRICULTURE.

NO CALLING CAPABLE OF YIELDING A LARGER AMOUNT OF ENJOYMENT—NO. II.

In the choice of a calling or profession for a livelihood, many are influenced more by considerations of *gain*, than pleasure. The question is not which will yield the greatest amount of enjoyment, but which promises the greatest and most rapid gains. To this ruling passion men are willing to sacrifice present pleasures, in the anticipation of enjoying a ten fold degree when their golden dreams are realized. Dear bought is that gain which is purchased at the sacrifice of present ease and comfort. Without condemning the desire of gain to a proper extent, or discarding it from our considerations in the choice of a profession, I think we act more wisely when we make the probable amount of enjoyment to be derived from any calling, the principal basis of our choice. We have but one life to live here, and we ought to make that life as happy as we can consistently with our obligations as moral agents and accountable creatures, having reference always to a better life to come.

Taking a comparative view of different callings and professions as means of a livelihood, I am led to believe there is no branch of business capable of yielding a larger amount of enjoyment than the pursuit of Agriculture. As the profession of the farmer is a *profitable*, so it is a *pleasant* one. And as the *pleasures* reasonably to be calculated upon, as well as the *gains*, influence some men in their choice of a calling, it may not be amiss to point out some of the principle pleasures of the agricultural life.

If there is any class of people who can be called happy, it is our farmers, so far as happiness is to be derived from the quiet scenes and occupations of rural life, a freedom from vexing care and anxiety, tranquility and contentment of mind, health of body, and the possession of a sufficiency of the substantial comforts of life. If they are not the happiest people in the world, it is mainly their own fault, for they possess, in an ample degree, the means of being happy.

1. The scenes with which the farmer is constantly conversant, and the occupations in which he is engaged, yield the purest enjoyment. The works of nature are constantly before him, to the contemplation of which he is invited by the retirement and seclusion of his humble calling; from the springing of the grain which he buries in the bosom of the earth, to its maturity in the ripened ear—the full development and progress through their several stages, of the plant, the animal and the tree planted by his hand and nourished by his care. He

"To nature's voice attends; from month to month
And day to day, through the revolving year;
Admiring sees her in her every shape—
Feels all her sweet emotions at his heart—
Takes what she liberal gives, nor thinks of more.
He, when young Spring protrudes the bursting germs,
Marks the first bud and sucks the healthful gale
Into his freshen'd soul; her genial hours
He full enjoys, and not a beauty blows,
And not an opening blossom, breathes in vain."

His is the varied landscape which, by his industry, beautifying the face of nature, he in a measure creates for himself. These rual scenes and objects he views, not barely with that pleasure which every admirer of nature feels, but with the additional satisfaction arising from the knowledge that they are *his*—the fruits of his own industry.

2. Another source of happiness he enjoys in a comparative freedom from vexing care and anxiety, so often experienced in other professions. His life is not a life of turmoil and vexation; he pursues the calm and even tenor of his course, undisturbed by those harrassing fears and anxieties which torment some in other callings. His care is confined principally to the operations of his farm; and though it must be constant and unremitting, yet it is a kind of care which is not vexing to the mind, and destructive of its quiet. So long as he is blessed with health and strength, depending upon the uniform course of nature, the fulfilment of the gracious promise of seed time and harvest, he may confidently look for an ample reward of his toil. He has little or no cause for anxiety and disquietude. Seldom is he disappointed in his expectations by the failure of his crops, or a depreciation of the price of his products below their value. These he takes to market, receives their equivalent, and returns home with a feeling of independence, a light heart, and a cheerful and satisfied countenance. In other professions, as the mercantile, &c., how many painful anxieties are sometimes felt by those engaged in them, for the issue of some trade or speculation, the success of which depends upon a fortuity of circumstances over which they cannot exercise a control? Heavy pecuniary liabilities are incurred—engagements are to be met, dependent upon the integrity and promptness of others—a draft may be dishonored—a note protested, &c. &c. How many sleepless nights are thus spent, in anxious, corroding thoughts, which rob the bosom of its quiet, and destroy all present enjoyment? Contrast this with the peacefulness and tranquility of the farmer's life, and then say which enjoys the most happiness.

3. The pursuit of agriculture is productive of happiness by the tranquility and contentment of mind it is calculated to beget, and its tendency to promote the exercise of virtue. In addition to that freedom from vexing care and anxiety, the scenes and occupations of rural life, from the train of thoughts and emotions which they excite, and the contemplations which they awaken, have a soothing, tranquilizing, and happy moral effect upon the mind, favorable to the exercise of virtue and of the best feelings and affections of our nature. They constantly display the wisdom, power and goodness of the Creator, so visible in his works, and call up the mind to Him. Every object of nature around the farmer is a monitor of virtue, from which he may draw instruction, from the humblest flower which bedecks his morning path, withered ere the evening shade, to the stateliest tree which has braved the storms of centuries, spreading wide its branches, and sheltering the humble flock from the pelting storm or the summer's burning rays.

Where this tranquility of mind and moral sensibility are felt, contentment is the certain result, and without contentment there can be but little happiness.

Again, in the retirement of the farmer's life, and in the active employment of his mind and body, there are few temptations to vice, the cause of all misery, to which men in other callings are constantly exposed. There is no time for *idleness*, the nurse of many hurtful passions, and the parent of every vice. Not that his life is one of continual toil, for he has moments for innocent and healthful recreation; especially in the long winter evenings, which he can spend in useful reading, and in the domestic and fireside enjoyments in the bosom of his family. His calling keeps him from those places and scenes of dissipation, the haunts of the idle and the vicious, so dangerous to the morals, especially of the young. Removed from this contagious influence, his children can the more easily be trained up to industrious and virtuous habits. So far then as his calling is more favorable than many others to the exercise of virtue, is it more productive of happiness, for without virtue, man is unfit for the enjoyment of happiness.

4. The pursuit of agriculture, while it is calculated to produce the most happy effect upon the mind, gives health and vigor to the body—another important *item* in the account of human happiness; for without health, we can have but little enjoyment, however ample our possessions; and with it, with a contented mind, we can be happy, even if we have but little. There is no exercise so healthful. It gives strength and vigor to the system, and arms it against disease. Many who, from a sedentary life and habits, had contracted a feeble and sickly constitution, and were wasting away under the inroads of disease, have been restored to health by a resort to the labors of the farm. The inhaling of the pure and wholesome air, the smell of the fresh turned sod, the delightful fragrance of the blossomed clover field, or of the new

mown hay, and the healthful exercise given to each part of the body, have done more for some to produce returning health, than all the drugs and nostrums of the medical profession. Who are more healthy or longer lived than our farmers? This results from their constant exercise in the open air, their temperate, regular habits, and evenness of mind. Look into their habitations; who can help being delighted with the view of their hale and ruddy children, the very pictures of health and happiness? Contrast this healthful appearance of the farmer and his household, with the wan countenance and often sickly frame exhibited in other professions, and then say which is the most favorable to the enjoyment of health, the greatest of temporal blessings, for the absence of which nothing can compensate.

Lastly. In the fruits of his toil, the farmer possesses the substantial comforts of life, if not its luxuries. Whatever the soil and climate are capable of producing, his industry can procure for him in abundance; the most comfortable of clothing—the richest products of the field and the flock—the choicest of fruits. He emphatically lives on the fat of the land. Though his table groans not under the costly dainties of the epicure, procured from every clime, it is loaded with the most wholesome and substantial food.

In conclusion, there cannot be a doubt, that the cultivation of the soil, man's primitive employment, is capable of yielding a large amount of pure, rational, and innocent enjoyment; no calling or profession calculated to yield more. Poets have sung its quiet and peaceful scenes, occupations and pleasures. A Virgil, a Thomson, a Cowper, and a Bloomfield, have made it the theme of their happiest productions. The great, the wise and the good, have sought quiet and repose from the noise and bustle of the world, the storms of political strife and ambition, the weight of cares and responsibilities of public life, in its peaceful scenes and employments. Let then the farmer be contented with his humble but honorable calling, and not sigh for greater happiness, nor envy those in other professions, whom he may think more happy. And let those who are hesitating in the choice of a profession for a livelihood, weigh well, before they decide, the advantages and pleasures of the agricultural life.

"Oh knew he but his happiness, of men
The happiest he! who far from public rage,
Deep in the vale with a choice few retired,
Drinks the pure pleasures of the Rural Life.
* * * * * * * * *
Sure peace is his, a solid life, estranged
To disappointment and fallacious hope:
Rich in content, in nature's bounty rich,
In herbs and fruits; whatever greens the Spring,
When heaven descends in showers; or bends the bough,
When Summer reddens, and when Autumn beams;
Or in the wintry glebe, whatever lies
Conceal'd, and fattens with the richest sap:
These are not wanting; nor the milky drove,
Luxuriant spread o'er all the lowing vale;
Nor bleating mountains; nor the chide of streams;
And hum of bees, inviting sleep sincere
Into the guiltless breast, beneath the shade,
Or thrown at large amid the fragrant hay;
Nor aught beside of prospect, grove or song,
Dim grottos, gleaming lakes, and fountains clear.
Here, too, dwells simple Truth; plain Innocence;
Unsullied Beauty; sound, unbroken Youth,
Patient of labor, with a little pleas'd,
Health ever blooming; unambitious toil;
Calm contemplation; and poetic ease."

(*Thomson's Seasons—Autumn.*)

Hammondsport, Feb. 6, 1838. W. W. B.

HOOF-AIL.

Mr. Tucker—In consequence of your pressing and repeated requests in the Genesee Farmer, for information relative to the disease called the Hoof-ail in Cattle, I am induced to point out to you, that it is the same as you may find in treatises on the diseases of cattle, under the names of Foul in the Foot, Loo, or Low. I have seen those suffering from it at Henrietta, and know it to be the same, but in the most violent form, attended with a high degree of inflammation, and swelling above the foot, more especially at the back part or heel, and extending all up the leg; most likely it has been occasioned by the frequent changes from frost to thaw, and the cattle being allowed at such times to be walking and standing about with their feet continually enveloped in mud. If stock keepers wish to practice economy, they must have good sheds around a good straw yard for the winter; in much milder climates in Europe, they are considered indispensable.

Copious bleeding, or until the animal becomes faint, is the best remedy in such violent forms of the disease; with a saline purgative administered, say 1 lb. of Epsom or Glauber salts dissolved in about a pint and a half of warm water; the whole of the foot should be wrapt in a large poultice which should be removed morning and evening until the inflammation has subsided, when the wound or wounds should be daily dressed with the ointment. Sometimes the swelling bursts and a core comes out; when this has taken place the poultice should be continued for a day or two, and then the wound may be dressed daily with the ointment.

For Poultice—take linseed meal, and for each about one ounce of common or horse turpentine, mix up with hot water and apply whilst warm. The best way of securing it, is to make a strong bag with a piece of coarse cloth, adapted to the form and size of the foot and leg, about half way up to the knee or hock.

For Ointment—take four ounces of lard and four ounces of common or horse turpentine, melt together, and when removed from the fire stir in of blue vitriol very finely powdered one ounce, continue stirring until the ointment is cold.

I am, sir, your ob't serv't, S. W. Shotter.

Pittsford, Feb. 10, 1838.

SPRING WHEAT.

A "Young Farmer," in the last number of your paper, makes several inquiries relative to the advantages or disadvantages of growing spring wheat. Having for the last two years looked at the subject, and talked at it, and worked at it, I will give him my views.

On the score of value, it is my opinion that it is worth, or would be if offered in market, about fifteen per cent less than winter wheat, or say $1.25 when the latter is worth $1,50, and it is doubtful whether the merchant miller would purchase it at any price for exportation, as it will not make flour superior to the brand of best "*fine*."

On our own fair wheat lands about fifteen bushels per acre will probably be an average crop, when the same quality of land, and the same tillage, would produce 20 bushels of winter wheat, and in my opinion it is not a better, if as good, a preparation for winter wheat, as winter wheat itself, and not as good as oats, corn or flax.

Its advantages as a spring crop I conceive to be thus: When you are dissatisfied with yourself, that you have not as much wheat sown as you could wish, which might have been caused either from a very wet fall, lateness of the harvest, miscalculation, or any other means; or, if your fall crop should be attacked by the fly, and extensively damaged; or, if badly winter killed; or, if you have a piece of ground that you neither wish to plant, or put to oats, or other spring crop; or, if you have a field that you very much wish to seed down to clover; or, if you are content to eat the bread of spring wheat, and sell your merchantable wheat,—then—then, we say, grow spring wheat—and there is hardly a season but what it might be convenient, and oftentimes important, for every farmer to sow more or less; it is another string to a bow, that is very apt, in these *Navy Island times*, to *crack*, and I hold it to be orthodox to say, that he who relies solely on one particular crop, or he who does not at any rate have that variety growing that he may make "assurance doubly sure," and almost "take a bond of fate" against all contingencies, does not work it right, as the Prompter says.

I have tried it last year with seed costing $2,50 per bushel, and intend to again this year, *wind and tide serving*.

The foregoing I believe to be within a *squirrel's jump* of the true whys and wherefores on the subject of the advantages of raising spring wheat, (*Triticum æstivum,*) so far as relates to the interest of the farmers of Western New York. L.

Greece, Feb. 1, 1838.

INQUIRY.

Mr. Tucker—I wish the use of your columns to procure information upon the subject of grinding food for stock. I intrude upon you as a matter of necessity, as I have thus far been unsuccessful in my inquiries, and know of no other method of coming to a satisfactory result, than the one I now adopt.

It has been said that "*Steaming*, if it can be done effectually, will not only answer the purpose of both grinding and subsequent cooking, but add, also, materially to the quantity of food which can be used." Page 15, vol. 8, of the Genesee Farmer.

Is this so? If any experiments carefully conducted have been made that will settle this point, all farmers are interested in being informed of the result.

I possess a small unoccupied water power, sufficient to grind two or three bushels of corn per hour. If grinding before cooking does not add *materially* to the value of food, then I am not disposed to invest money in a useless mill. Thus it is important to me that this question should be settled beyond doubt.

If it should be established, that grinding is important; I wish to know what apparatus is best for grinding on a small scale. Economy is important, in such investments, and it is desirable that the cheapest plan that will answer the purpose should be adopted.

I have heard of a cast iron mill, in operation in Medina county, Ohio, made upon the plan of a bark mill, as being well adapted to grinding grain for feeding to stock. Some very small mill stones have been used for such purposes, and many plans have been adopted in various places. I wish to know which is the best, and where the apparatus can be had.

Yours, respectfully, Geo. Geddes.

Geddes, Feb. 8, 1838.

P. S. I would suggest to "South-hill," that water lime is the best material for pipes to convey water. The pipe can be made of any size, and is not to be compared with any timber for durability—can be made by any ingenious man, and to sum up its merits, it is very cheap.

POTATOE BREAD.

Reader, did you ever eat potatoe bread? Do you say no, and that you never expect to be driven to the necessity of so doing? Well, sir, then I would say to you, try it as an article of luxury.

Perhaps you have associated the idea of potatoe bread and living on roast potatoes as about one and the same thing. Such were my views until quite recently; but some time since, taking tea at a friend's house, I noticed some very fine light biscuit, and was not a little surprised when the good lady informed that they were made of two thirds flour and one-third of potatoes, and that her whole family preferred bread made of part potatoes.

Since that time we have often had our bread made of one-fourth or one-third part potatoes. It is quite as sweet, and much more moist than when made of flour only. Try it, friend, try it, and if you cannot eat it I will engage to find some person that will. Pyrus.

Buffalo, February, 1838.

Dogs and Cats.

Mr. Tucker.—Will you do me the favor to republish the article on "Dogs and Cats," on the 72d page of the 5th vol. of the Farmer, and much oblige

A Wool Grower.

Mr. Editor—A humble correspondent desires a small corner in your excellent paper, which I am sure, if you have a single spark of gallantry about you, or any regard for the comfort of our sex, you will not refuse; especially as one part of your labors is directed to the promotion of whatever tends to the advancement of domestic convenience and comfort, in which we,—whose humble sphere is the precincts of home, the kitchen and the parlor,—are so deeply interested.

Te come then immediately to my subject, let me record my testimony, for the good of my sister housekeepers and

the community in general, to the singular *advantage* and *addition to domestic comfort*, of having about you, as inmates of the house and part of the family, *some half a dozen dogs and cats.*

A few of the advantage and comforts, we will briefly enumerate.

Being of a social disposition, and fond of participating in your domestic concerns, it is so pleasant to have them about you in the kitchen, the larder, and the pantry, dipping their noses into every dish to test its flavor and your skill in the important art of cookery. Again, when you have cleaned up your floors, and are trying to have things a little neat and tidy about you, how pleasant it is, to have Bose, Towser, and some two or three more whelps of less degree, come tracing across your floors and carpets, especially in wet, muddy weather. *Particularly agreeable* is their presence in the house just after their return from a repast upon some neighboring dead carcass, by the delightful odor with which they regale your olfactories. In this respect, how agreeable too, are a litter of cats and kittens about the house, imparting a *peculiar fragrance* to every room to which they have access, from the garret to the cellar, rendering the more costly perfume of musk altogether unnecessary.

Nor is this the only sense that is delighted. How sweet the music of the *canine corps*, from the grum bass of Bose, down to the fine treble of my lady's lap-dog, barking and yelping when some stranger approaches the premises; or when for their own amusement and yours, they keep up their incessant barking through the night, delighted with the echo of their own voice. What can be more charming than the plaintive notes of the howling of a dog at the still hour of midnight? Nor less the delight which the *feline corps* afford by their music, especially, when some *forty cats*, or less, (at any rate "our cat and another one," as the boy said,) get together in their noctural visits, for a serenade, under your window, and set up their *caterwauling*, to the no small terror of the children and maids. Who has not listened transported with their delightful harmony, each performer carrying his separate part with varied cadence, from high to low, from soft and plaintive, to more full and bold notes, until the grand chorus burst forth at once in one *tremendous squall*. Particularly, how agreeable is it, to be thus serenaded and kept awake, when you have been broken of your rest for several nights previous, or are very desirous to obtain a little sleep and respite from the torments of a tooth-ach, (for who, Mr, Editor, that has arrived at the age of 30, has not felt something of the uncomfortableness of the tooth-ache?)

Then too the *profitableness* of having a host of dogs and cats about you. It takes as much ordinarily to keep a good sized dog, as it does to feed a child. If a *poor man* wants to keep *poor*, what better mode can he pursue, than to keep two or three dogs, to eat up what should go to feed and clothe his family?

To our *wool growers* too, how very *profitable* the host of dogs that throng the country. It is true, now and then they kill a dozen or twenty sheep in a night, but do they not also keep off the wolves? I leave it to the judgment of my betters, if it is not a cruel slander upon them to say, that they have caused the destruction of more sheep than have ever been killed by all the wolves in the country. I say nothing of the *great advantage* of having our country, *well stocked with dogs*, to prevent the destruction of human lives, and of other property, by rabid animals, *mad dogs*, *mad cats*, &c.

So highly do I appreciate the great utility of dogs, that on more accounts than *one*, I was particularly pleased with the famous *Dog Bill* offered some few years since, by a distinguished member of our Legislature, to take the existing tax off from *dogs*, and lay it on *old Bachelors*, I think it would have been a most capital plan. The gentleman who offered the bill, although it did not pass, deserves the thanks and grateful remembrance, not only of the *canine race*, but of a still more *unfortunate race of beings*, for whose benefit, as well as that of dogs, the bill was calculated to operate,—the race of *old Maids*, of which I happen—but I will say no more on this point, as I perceive I am bringing the subject a little too *near home*.

These, Mr. Editor, are some of the particular advantages and comforts of keeping dogs and cats, which I submit to the consideration of all who are interested.

Yours, COUSIN TABITHA.

From the New England Farmer.

Massachusetts Agricultural Society.

We have great pleasure in anouncing some of the Premiums of the Mass. Agricultural Society. The Society offered two most liberal premiums for the best and second best managed farm, which might be offered, requiring that the entry of these farms for premium should be made early in October, and that a full account of the whole condition and management should be given in detail. The first premium was 150 dollars, the second 100 dollars. It was hoped that these would have presented a sufficient inducement for many applications. The offer of premiums made by the Society, though the Trustees took great pains in extending it, did not reach all parts of the State; and in this matter it is to be feared great neglect is to be attributed to some persons in whose hands their prospectus was placed; and by which neglect the liberal and excellent intentions of the Society have been in a measure defeated. The conditions were as liberal as they could with any propriety be made; and we have many farms in the State, which might have honorably entered into the competition. Only three claimants appeared and two of those not having been seasonably entered, the Trustees did not consider themselves at liberty to bestow on them either of the premiums; but bestowed liberal gratuities only. The claim seasonably entered was, for reasons detailed in their report, not deemed entitled to either of the premiums; but at the same time deserving of an honorable notice. We shall give the reports in full in our next paper, at this time we announce only the rewards.

To Joshua R. Lawton, of Great Barrington, in Berkshire Co., a gratuity of seventy-five dollars. $75 00

To Joseph Howe of Methuen, in the county of Essex, a gratuity of fifty dollars, $50 00

To William Buckminster of Framingham, in county of Middlesex, a gratuity of fifty dollars, $50 00

The statements of these several claimants with their particular accounts of their management and crops will be given, in due season with the Report. We presume that these premiums on the management of Farms will be continued, and we hope they will excite that attention among our farmers, which they deserve. If the pecuniary value of these rewards is not sufficient to rouse them, yet have they no public spirit? have they no interest in the improvement of that great art, to which they have devoted their lives? and what can more directly contribute to its advancement than an animated and public competition? When we come to present the detailed reports to the public, we shall take occasion to extend our remarks. We have only to add that Mr. Howe of Methuen, Essex Co. who appears here honored by a liberal gratuity, obtained a premium on his farm of thirty dollars from the Essex Agricultural Society the current year. This returning home with two medals will, we hope, make his neighbors sufficiently envious to induce them to go and do likewise. If any choose to say, as we know they will say, there is nothing in Mr. Howe's farming which any body cannot do, we only say then in reply, let any body do it. That is the very thing we desire.

We subjoin the Report of the Committee on Vegetable and Grain Crops.

The Committee of the Trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, on Vegetable and Grain crops, respectfully submit the following Report.

Premiums they recommend as follows—

To Eldad Post of Lenox, for the largest quantity of Spring Wheat, being 40 bushels to the acre. $20 00

To Maxwell Lowry, of Marshfield, for his crop of carrots on an acre, being the only claim for that article, 472 32.56 bushels, $30 00

To S. D. Colt and Robert Colt of Pittsfield, for the greatest quantity of vegetables for home consumption and not for sale, $30 00

Also for the greatest quantity of Ruta Baga, being 1080 bushels on 1 acre and 2 rods, $30 00

The following claim was sent in too late to be admitted according to an indispensable rule of the Trustees, but as the crop was uncommonly good, the Committee recommend half the amount of the premium as a gratuity.

To Peleg S. Gardner of Somerset, for his corp of Rye, on one acre, being 35½ bushels, $10 00

The committee notice with pleasure the following claims which, though not entitled to premiums deserve to be mentioned, as evidence of the increasing attention of our agriculturists to the raising of wheat, and as showing the paracticability of growing to advantage this essential article of bread stuff, in Massachusetts.

Payson Williams of Fitchburg, had to the acre of wheat, 38½ bush.

Jos. S. Leland of Sherburne, 32 14.32 "

Frederick Knight of Newbury, 32 14 32 "

All these were Spring Wheat.

Mr. Benj. Cleaveland of Somerset, had 79½ bushels of oats. No premium was offered on oats.

Mr. Peleg S. Gardner had 40½ bushels of Barley on one acre. The quantity required was 45 bushels.

Signed, P. C. BROOKS, Chairman.

MORUS MULTICAULIS SEED.

We regret to learn, by the Yankee Farmer, that "Mr. John M. Ives, of Salem, Mass., has received, direct from Canton, a quantity of *real* Morus multicaulis seed,"—for nothing, in our opinion, will more effectually discourage farmers in commencing the culture of silk, than attempts to propagate this valuable kind of mulberry from seed. Let an individual purchase Chinese mulberry seed at an exhorbitant price, prepare and sow his land with great care and expense, and, should the seed happen to germinate, raise a crop of White mulberries, or a kind little better, and he will most assuredly abandon silk growing in disgust—consider it an imposition upon the public, and pronounce its promoters cheats and swindlers.

Two years since we thought ourselves fortunate in procuring a considerable quantity of "genuine" Morus multicaulis seed, at a price which we then thought reasonable, but which we confess was not very creditable to our credulity, and much less to our judgment. Our friends and correspondents, learning that fortune had selected us, in this respect, to be his peculiar favorite, and supposing that we had a princely estate in expectancy, besought us in the most moving language to let them share in the golden shower, which was soon to be poured in torrents upon us. They offered such sums for single seeds as they thought would overcome our cupidity, and, when declined, considered us unkind, and even intimated that we were governed too much by selfishness. It is true we have no claims to extraordinary patriotism or disinterested benevolence; but it is equally true that we then had, as we now have, an unconquerable desire to introduce the culture of silk, and make it a common branch of domestic economy. We also then feared, what we now know to be the fact, that it would either fail in germinating, or in producing the genuine plant; and, in either event, the reception of the money which they were endeavoring to force into our hands, would be tortured into a fraud of the most dishonorable character. We were also aware that a failure of success would disappoint the hopes of purchasers, and do more to check the progress of the enterprise than all our arguments would to urge it forward.

These views of the subject, in connection with others which it is not necessary to enumerate, led us to decide that we would peremptorily refuse all applications for the seed, from whatever quarter they might come, and sow it on our own account and at our own risque. We accordingly obtained, at a high rent, the most promising tract of land in this region, manured and prepared it in the best possible manner, and employed the most skilful and experienced gardeners to sow the seed. Lest the drouth which prevailed in the early part of the season should prevent the seed from vegetating, we resorted to artificial watering, and, in short, omitted nothing which time and money could furnish to ensure a crop—but alas! the golden shower, like the "morning cloud and early dew," passed away—not a seed vegetated, and probably not one possessed vitality. The loss which we sustained, though more than we could well afford, taught us a lesson by which we have since profited, and by which we are also desirous all should profit who are engaging in the culture of silk. It did not, however, discourage us, or in the least degree weaken our faith in the object we had in view. Had we sold the seed, instead of sowing it, we might have made a profit; but every purchaser would have been disappointed, and probably disgusted and discouraged, and the loss to the public been a thousand fold greater than it was to us. Another lot of seed, in which we were interested, vegetated, but produced plants unlike the genuine Morus multicaulis in many respects, and altogether inferior in quality and value.

We have thus given a brief outline of our experience in propagating the Morus multicaulis from seed, and hope our friends will avoid the losses and disappointments we have been compelled to encounter. Our knowledge of the plant does not enable us to say positively that its seed will not produce its like; but our experience is decidedly in favor of that supposition, and our faith in it strong enough to prevent our sustaining further losses by further experiments.—*Silk Culturist.*

Important to Farmers

A few weeks since we published a communication from a correspondent, giving the results of an experiment in planting corn, by Hart Massey, Esq. of this village; Mr Massey called upon us on Saturday last to correct an important error in said communication, and invited us personally to examine the said field, which we accordingly did, and now give the results of our observation.

Mr Massey took of the seed corn with which he planted the field, a small quantity, and soaked it in a solution of *sal nitre*, commonly called salt petre, and planted five rows with the seed thus prepared. The remainder of the field, we believe, was planted by the same individual. Now for the result. The five rows planted with corn prepared with salt petre. will yield more than twenty-five rows planted without any preparation. The five rows were untouched by the worms, while the remainder of the field suffered severely by their depredations. We shou'd judge that not one kernel, saturated with salt petre was touched, while almost every hill in the adjoining row suffered severely. No one who will examine the field can doubt the efficacy of the preparation. He will be astonished at the striking difference between the five rows and the remainder of the field.

Here is a simple fact, which if seasonably and generally known, would have saved many thousands of dollars to the farmers of this country alone, in the article of corn. It is a fact, which should be universally known, and is, in all probability, one of the greatest discoveries of modern times in the much neglected science of agricul-

ture. At all events, the experiment should be extensively tested, as the results are deemed certain, while the expense is comparatively nothing.

Mr M. also stated as to the result of another experiment tried upon one of his apple trees last spring. It is a fine thrifty healthy tree, about twenty-five or thirty years old, but has never in any one year, produced over about two bushels of apples. While in blossom last spring, he ascended the tree and sprinkled plaster freely on the blossoms, and the result is, that it will this season yield twenty bushels of apples. Now if plaster will prevent the blast, it is a discovery of great importance. Mr M. was led to make the experiment by reading an account of the production of trees adjoining a meadow where plaster had been sown at a time when there was a light breeze in the direction of the orchard, the trees contiguous to the meadow bearing well, while the others produced no fruit. —*Watertown (N. Y.) Standard.*

From the Ohio Farmer.

Maple Sugar.

We republish, at the request of a correspondent, the following article on maple sugar, published in our third volume. As the sugar season is now approaching, it is to be hoped that many of our farmers will follow the simple process here described. The superior quality of the sugar will certainly justify every manufacturer in exercising neatness and cleanliness, where they involve no expense. And the higher price which this fine sugar will bring in market, will more than compensate for the diminution of weight arising from the drainage.

We think the method of drainage here recommended, by far superior to the usual method with barrels. The conical shaped vessels are made of a cheap material, and no man can be found who is not sufficiently acquainted with carpenter's tools to make them for himself—besides these considerations, experience has fully shown us that small quantities of sugar are much more easily drained than large ones. These small vessels are readily handled, and can without difficulty or inconvenience be placed in a warm room, and the form of them is the best that can be adopted for the ready flow of the moisture.

We have still on hand a specimen of the sugar manufactured by Mr. Augustus, which we have exhibited with much satisfaction to a great number of persons. We are satisfied that if Mr. A. could have heard the commendations bestowed upon it, he would ever persevere in the neatness and excellence which he has here commenced. But our knowledge of Mr. A. satisfied us that he requires no such adventitious circumstances to induce him to persevere.—We shall be happy to exhibit this specimen to all such other persons as may favor us with a call.—Ed. Far.

Mr. Medary—I send you a small specimen of beautiful Maple Sugar, manufactured by Mr. David Augustus, a very intelligent farmer residing in Tarleton, Fairfield county. When you are informed that this sugar derives its beauty from the particular cleanliness exercised by Mr. A. in its manufacture, I trust that with me you will wish that our sugar makers were in general better impressed with the propriety of attention in this particular. Is it not to be imagined, that in a *pecuniary* point of view they would be profitable? Mr. A. made, as I understand from himself, about 450 lbs., all of like quality with this specimen. The following description of the process of manufacture, is in his own words. It will be observed that he only varies from Chaptal in his language, and in the want of technical terms:

"Be particular to have clean buckets for the sap, and to have clean kettles. Boil only one barrel of sap to each kettle, and when boiled to a proper syrup to strain thro' flannel, take it off the fire, and clean the kettles;—then pour in one pint of sweet milk to each barrel of water evaporated,—put it over the fire and when it is about to commence boiling, take it off—let it stand a few minutes, skim it and strain it through flannel. It should not be suffered to stand off the fire more than one night, then put it over the fire, and for every three barrels of water, use at least four eggs well beaten—skim it, and if it is not perfectly clear take it off, and strain it again,—then boil it down with a rapid fire, adding, if necessary, clean butter or lard to prevent its boiling over; and when it is sufficiently boiled to lift from a cup of water with the point of a knife, take the kettle off to cool, and let the crystals form, for which purpose two days are amply sufficient. Then put it in the cones made of poplar boards, holding from 15 to 20 pounds, bringing them to a point at the lower end, and leaving a hole at the point about the size of a shingle nail—set them in a stove room, or some other place where it may be made hot, so as to cause the molasses to separate from the crystals; leave it in the stove-room for a week, so that it may become perfectly dry."

I send you this description with the hope that the simplicity of it will induce others to make a trial.

I am yours, respectfully, A. S. Chew.

Columbus, July 1, 1837.

On Watering Stock in Winter.

As animals in general are fed on dry food in winter, they will drink freely if they have access to water immediately after eating; this is well known to all who have the care of stock; there may be some cases where they will not drink directly after eating dry food, but it is usually owing to some disadvantage or inconvenience attending them—such as poor water, difficulty in reaching it when low, cold winds, &c. We have seldom known cattle, horses or sheep to refuse water immediately after eating, if they could conveniently obtain that which was good. It being then an established fact, that animals are generally thirsty after eating fodder, we should next consider whether they will not be kept in a better condition, by having free access to water and slaking their thirst when they please; it is generally allowed that they will, though some suppose that as dry food excites a great degree of thirst, it will induce animals to drink more water than is necessary, if they have water immediately after eating.—This is a proper subject for inquiry and investigation. Every man is doubtless aware that he is sometimes very thirsty after, or while eating some kinds of dry food, and that his appetite would induce him to drink more than would be conducive to his health or comfort, though it might be an immediate relief by allaying his thirst. Whether this be the case or not with animals, we leave for consideration, with this remark—If there are any cases of the kind, they may be frequent, or rather constant with many, as they are fed constantly on dry fodder. Let it be as it may as to animals being injured by drinking when very thirsty, we believe that the general practice among farmers in letting their stock go so long without water is very improper. A great many farmers tie up their cattle about sunset in the shortest days in winter, and feed them once or twice that evening, and they then doubtless become very thirsty, but they have no water, and the next morning they are again supplied with dry food, and become so thirsty that they drink to excess, and then stand shivering with the cold. The cattle are usually housed at 4 or 5 o'clock in the evening and frequently remain till 10 o'clock the next morning, making 17 or 18 hours that they are confined without water, receiving during that time all their food, and that very dry.—Every farmer must be sensible that this is not good management, and yet many practice it, as it seems to be difficult to remedy the evil.

It will be inconvenient in most cases to furnish stock with water in the night, and though they are in want of it at that time, yet if they do not have it, they will not be likely to drink in the morning if they are turned out before they are fed. This we have often observed as to horses; when they have water after eating in the evening, they usually drink freely; but if they are not watered in the evening they will seldom drink much in the morning until they are fed again, unless they have been eating in the night. It is probably the same with cattle. We would recommend the following method to farmers who do not practice a better, and we have no doubt that it will be attended with many advantages and but little trouble.

Give cattle a moderate foddering early in the morning and turn them out and let them drink soon after they have eaten it, then clean out the barn and tie them up again in a very short time if it be extremely cold, and if it be moderate let them remain a little while, and after they are housed, feed them again, and let them remain in the barn till towards sunset, then feed them and when they have eaten, turn them out to drink in season to clean out the barn, and tie them up before dark. In this manner they will have eaten only about one half their food between each time of drinking, they will suffer much less from cold, and the saving of manure by most farmers will more than pay all the trouble. There will also be a saving in fodder, as cattle require less when confined in a comfortable barn than when exposed to cold. If any one supposes that it is injurious to animals to drink immediately after eating, he can let then remain till they grow less thirsty. Will some farmers who manage their stock in what they consider the best manner, not sparing any necessary pains, give us their views on this subject?—*Yankee Farmer.*

From the Cultivator.

Liming Lands.

In Great Britain it is common to apply from 120 to 350 bushels, and sometimes even 600 bushels are given to the acre. The smallest quantity here named would destroy fertility in America, so far as experiments have been made. In Pennsylvania, where lime is in the greatest use for agricultural purposes, from 50 to 100 bushels are applied to the acre, the lesser quantity upon poor lands. The application of ten bushels to the acre annually, as recommended by Mr. Puvis, *as long as the crops continue to derive addition benefit from its use*, would perhaps be the safest mode of proceeding, where there is a doubt of its proving beneficial. But note well, we speak of caustic, fresh burnt lime, which can only be applied with certain profit to particular soils, where there is lignious, peaty, or inert vegetable matter, which it is the office of lime to decompose and fit as food for plants. And further—quick lime soon becomes mild or carbonate of lime, by its union with carbonic acid, which it imbibes from the earth and the atmosphere—when both its qualities and its offices becomes changed—it then improves the texture of the soil, and increases its capacities of fertility. The analysis of a soil can alone enable one to determine whether mild lime, or marl, is likely to benefit it, and to what extent. Carbonate of lime may beneficially exist to the amount of two to four per cent, in the upper six inch stratum of the soil. But as our correspondent is located on a primitive formation, destitute, or nearly so, of calcareous earth, there is no doubt but mild lime, in all its forms, will constitute a profitable application.

We subjoin the general rules, in relation to the application of lime, laid down in British Husbandry, which seem to apply well to our practice.

"1. Before the application of lime, the land should be thoroughly drained and laid dry.

"2. It may be carried on when the teams are most at leisure; but summer is the best season; and it never should be laid upon the land except in dry weather.

"3. It should be laid on while in a powdery state—the drier the better—and kept as near the surface as possible, as then best adapted to mix intimately with the soil.

"4. It may be applied either quick or effete; but if in the former state, it will have more effect in cleansing the land, and a less quantity will serve the immediate purpose. It should, however, be carted upon the land as soon as possible, and spread directly before the plough, letting that follow so quickly, as that the body of the lime shall be slaked in the soil; and it must be cautiously applied to light soils.

"5. As it has a tendency to sink into the ground, and it is important to preserve it near the surface, it should be ploughed with a shallow furrow.

"6. When found, after a few years, in lumps, and much below the surface of the land, it should be ploughed up and repeatedly harrowed, so as to ensure its intermixture.

"7. Clays and strong loams require a full dose; but for sands and other light soils, a much less quantity of lime will serve—each in proportion to the strength of the lime and the land.

"8. If the land be not supplied with the same quantity of putrescent manure that is usually laid upon other soils, the crops will suffer; and if it be not then laid down to grass for a long series of years, it will be worn out and exhausted."

We add the following from Prof. Low:

"Lime may be laid on the surface of land when it is in grass, and remain there until the land is ploughed up for tillage, even though this should be several years afterwards. The lime, in this case, quickly sinks into the soil, and acting upon it, prepares it for crops when it is again tilled."

"It may be spread upon the surface even when plants are growing. This, however, is rarely to be imitated."

Cotton wet with sweet oil and paregoric, relieves the ear-ache very soon.

Nothing will fatten sheep quicker than apples.

Spring Wheat.

JUST received at the Rochester Seed Store, a further supply of genuine *Italian* and *Bald Siberian* Spring Wheat, both of which are highly recommended and of superior quality. REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Feb. 17th, 1838.

To Agriculturists and Others.

THE subscriber, being just returned from England, made such arrangements whilst there as will enable him to import any quantity of the different breeds of Sheep, Cattle and Hogs, in that country. Those persons who wish to get Imported Stock, will be able to do so by applying, if by letter, post paid, to

JOHN COWLEN,

Jan. 6, 1838. *Tully, Onondaga county, N. Y.*

N. B.—The passage money only will be required previous to their arrival in New York.

Seeds for 1838.

JUST arrived at the Rochester Seed Store, a large importation of English Field and Garden Seeds, of the growth of 1837; shipped from London this fall expressly to our order, and comprising a full assortment of the choicest kinds, such as

Cabbage,	Ruta Baga,	Rye Grass,
Cauliflower,	Mangel Wurtzel,	White Dutch
Brocoli,	Sugar Beet,	Clover,
Radish,	Lucern,	&c., &c.
Turnep,	Trefoil,	

These Seeds are from one of the best establishments in Europe, and the perfect satisfaction which they have hitherto given, is sufficient guarantee of their character.

Dealers and others supplied at wholesale on very favorable terms. nov18tf REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.